

6/8/72

Dear Foo,

My asking the operator to hold the call this a.m. for a few seconds was so I could wipe wet hands, no other reasons. - need no time for the purposes about which you made jokes, and in this case I had neither interest in other purposes nor reason to anticipate them. If I'd been at my desk I'd have picked up the phone promptly.

What I told you about the files in ~~xxx~~ your office is literally ~~xxx~~. I was astounded that there were only these couple of pages in the file with my name on it. If I don't remember which files you told me to read, I do that I saw my name and that there was so very little in that file. I hope you can find time to check into the disappearance of those files. I can't think of any not subject to misuse.

I could have thought of other names. Rather, I could have mentioned other names that link the three you gave me. But I elected not to when you were reluctant to go into this by phone. There is one where, if the copies I have provided have disappeared, I am not likely to provide duplicates. It is not merely that I do not approve of the retailing of my work, in itself sufficiently improper and intolerable. It is also that I will not be part of any kind of involvement of the innocent. \*

Of course, I have no way of knowing the name in which Jim now has an interest. Those I used were only the more obvious. My purpose was to learn if the more obvious were those of new interest.

I could have mentioned, for one example, Kent Courtney.

For my own reasons I was not, in the past, concerned about intrusions into phones. There is, I think, now more likelihood. So, if you want to write me about this matter, you know how to do it if you do not want to write me straight out. I never use any drops, so either of the friends you might use will be surprised. If you have any concern, merely have a sealed envelope inside and ask that I be phoned to pick it up. If you have any special preferences on response, let me know. Otherwise, I'll use no subterfuge.

The only thing I remember copying is something Jim gave me, provocative and seemingly real but also possibly a clever trick of the past. This is not to say I didn't copy more. I remember something you suggested I read, but not what it was.

In the past, I suppose I am the exception. I copied almost nothing, and I can't think of anything I didn't ask you about first. When I was there in 12/68, I copied nothing. I did other work while Vince made copies.

\* Here the first set of copies ~~xxx~~ <sup>Jim</sup> gave away or gave copies. They got into the hands of his active opponents, my source!

I can think of many names actually or reportedly linked, so many that I can't guess which Jim has in mind.

On Pershing, I suggest that you not underestimate him. I do not think Jim does or has. If Jim has ever denounced him or made any adverse comment on him, I am unaware of it. This may be instinctive, but if it was Jim's instinct, I think it was sound. I am concerned about the story that there is a contract out on him. I do not think it is by the mob or any part of it. It could make an ideal cover, however, for an effort by others, this tending to make it seem that the mob was out for vengeance. He is making sounds that help all the defendants now, so I can't conceive of any reason for any one of them, assuring no irrationality, to desire that he be hurt.

Good to hear from you. Best regards,

The files he found missing were all of those of my suggestions and recommendations to him, enormous in extent; Kerry Thornley; Barbara Heid. Supposedly these were in a locked, legal-size file cabinet in his office, formerly Alcock's. I looked at that to which he had referred me, saw a very thin one with my name, glanced at it without making any copies, and saw no other file on me.